

REMARKS**The Pending Claims Distinguish Over the Applied Art of Record****Summary of the Office Action**

In the Office Action, claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,742,358 to Iijima et al. (hereinafter "Iijima"). This rejection is respectfully traversed because the pending claims in their current form distinguish over the applied art of record for at least the following reasons.

Summary of Disclosed Embodiments of the Instant Invention

Embodiments of the invention discussed in the instant application involve a display control apparatus and methodology and information recording medium which control the display of video on a display panel that is placed in an inactive state when not displaying video and is placed in an active state when displaying video. More particularly, the embodiments are disclosed in association with an "in-dash monitor" environment in which a video display apparatus having a display panel is mounted on a vehicle. The display panel is retracted within a dash board when not displaying a video program and is placed in a video-visible position from the dashboard only when displaying a video program.

The Background portion of the instant application discusses certain problems in conventional "in-dash monitor" arrangements. For example, in conventional arrangements, displaying of video on the display panel commences simultaneously with the commencement of the active state. As a result, the user will not see the entire program because the program commences a few seconds before the display panel is in its fully extended (unfolded) state for the user to view it. Moreover, in conventional "in-dash monitor" arrangements, the display panel

retracts back within the dash board when the ignition key is turned off. As a result, even when the video program is completed, the display panel continues to be in its extended, active, position. As a result, the display panel remains exposed and susceptible to possible damage from heat and sun, or other environmental effects.

Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments associated with the instant invention are able to solve the first of these problems of the conventional arrangements by prohibiting the video output signal Sav from being output to the display panel until the display panel is fully extended to a state in which it is viewable by the user. In this way, the user will not miss any portion of the beginning of the video program. See, for example, step S18 in Fig. 5; page 15, lines 29-34; page 3, lines 1-4; and page 4, lines 8-12.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the embodiments associated with the instant invention are able to solve the second of these problems of the conventional arrangements by retracting the display panel within the dashboard once the video program is completed. This enhances the protection of the display panel from environmental effects and also allows the display panel to be retracted back into its inactive state without the need for any user interaction. See, for example, step S1 in Fig. 4; page 16, lines 1-4; and page 4, lines 18-22.

General Discussion of Applied Iijima Reference

The Office Action alleges that Iijima teaches all of the limitations of claims 1-9 of the instant application. Iijima discloses a projection type display apparatus having a movable built-in screen. The display apparatus includes an image projector and a position detector for detecting the position of the built-in screen. When the position detector determines that the built-in screen is in a first position, the image projector projects the image onto the built-in screen. When the position detector determines that the built-in screen is in a second position, the image

projector adjusts its focus for display of the image to an external screen. Iijima does not involve to any extent an “in-dash monitor” arrangement as in the instant application.

Independent Claims 1, 4 and 7

With regard to independent claim 1, the Examiner refers to the “opening or groove where the screen 105 (fig. 12) is made to move or slide up or down, as illustrated in Figs. 4-6” of Iijima as meeting the recited “opening device.” The Examiner goes on to refer to the “Built-in Screen Position Detecting Sensor 8, fig. 1” of Iijima as meeting the recited “detection device.” Finally, the Examiner refers to the “Image Projecting Means 4, Fig. 1” of Iijima as meeting the recited “output device.” As to the rejections of independent claims 4 and 7, the Examiner refers back to the rejection of independent claim 1.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Office Action’s interpretations of Iijima in these respects for at least the following reasons. While Iijima discloses a display apparatus that can switch between display of an image on either a built-in screen or an external screen based on the position of the built-in screen, there is no teaching or suggestion of waiting for the display device to be placed in an active state before commencing the output of video to be displayed in the manner recited in each of independent claims 1, 4 and 7. As previously discussed, this feature solves the problem of conventional arrangements by prohibiting the video output signal Sav from being output to the display panel until the display panel is fully extended to a state in which it is viewable by the user. In this way, the user will not miss any portion of the beginning of the video program.

Independent Claims 2, 5 and 8

With regard to independent claim 2, the Examiner refers to the “built-in Screen (First Image Forming means) 5, fig. 1” of Iijima as meeting the recited “display device.” The

Examiner goes on to refer to the “Built-in Screen Position Detecting Sensor 8, fig. 1” of Iijima as meeting the recited “detection device.” Finally, the Examiner refers to the “Control means 2, Fig. 1” of Iijima as meeting the recited “receiving control device.” As to the rejections of independent claims 5 and 8, the Examiner refers back to the rejection of independent claim 2.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Office Action’s interpretations of Iijima in these respects for at least the following reasons. While Iijima discloses a display apparatus that can switch between display of an image on either a built-in screen or an external screen based on the position of the built-in screen, there is no teaching or suggestion of detecting whether display of a video program is completed or automatically placing the display device in an inactive state upon detection of the completion of the video program, as recited in each of independent claims 2, 5 and 8. As previously discussed, this feature solves a problem of conventional arrangements by retracting the display panel within the dashboard once the video program is completed. This enhances the protection of the display panel from environmental effects and also allows the display panel to be retracted back into its inactive state without the need for any user interaction.

CONCLUSIONS

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn because Iijima does not teach or suggest each feature of independent claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8. As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, “[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim.” Thus, “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).” Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert

that dependent claims 3, 6 and 9 are allowable at least because of the dependence from their respective independent claims and the reasons set forth above.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of all rejections, and the timely allowance of all pending claims 1-9.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

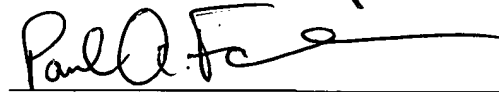
EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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